

stration, although strong evidence is given in favour of the former. We have quite failed in persuading a red *Eclectus* in the Zoological Society's Gardens to agree to live with a green one, although it must be allowed that this is sometimes the case with legitimate man and wife.

XLII.—On a new Species of Marsh-Warbler.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S. &c.

A SHORT time ago Dr. Otto Finsch, of Bremen, forwarded to me two birds from the collection of Count Ercole Turati, of Milan, for determination, one of which was labelled "*Sylvia magnirostris*, Kokand, ♂, No. 9625." I compared this specimen carefully with *Acrocephalus magnirostris*, Liljeborg (which species I may here remark is identical with *A. dumetorum*, Blyth, from India), and also made a critical comparison with other allied forms, and came to the conclusion that it is a distinct and probably hitherto undescribed species. I informed Dr. Finsch of the result of my investigations, and proposed to return the specimen to him, in order that he might describe it; but he wrote in reply stating that, if I felt convinced that it is distinct, he would prefer me to do this; and I therefore propose to call it *Acrocephalus sogdianensis*, the country where it was obtained being the Sogdiana of the ancients.

This bird is more nearly allied to *Acrocephalus palustris* (Bechst.) than to *A. dumetorum*, but differs in having a longer wing, a very much larger first primary, and being much greyer in tinge. Upper parts dull olive-brown, with a greyish tinge, rather darker on the head; rump and upper tail-coverts a trifle less grey; wings and tail dull brown, the quills and wing-coverts narrowly margined with dirty whitish or pale whitish brown, the tail-feathers (excepting the central rectrices) indistinctly margined with pale brownish white; the outermost rectrix, however, has this light border extending almost over the entire outer web, and this and the next feathers have tolerably broad whitish tips, the next in order having this white

tip barely indicated; the tail is much less rounded than in *A. palustris*, the feathers are broader, and on one or two there are obsolete cross bars as in *Locustella luscinioides*. Underparts white; on the breast, flanks, crissum, and under tail-coverts washed with pale brownish buff; sides of the head pale brownish; from the base of the bill over and behind the eye a narrow dirty buff stripe.

Culmen 0·7 inch, gape 0·74, wing 3·0, tail 2·4, tarsus 0·85, hind toe with claw 0·45, hind claw 0·22; first primary rather broad, a trifle longer than the primary coverts, and 1·71 less than the second, which is barely 0·1 shorter than the third and about equal to the fourth, or, if any thing, a trifle less; the third primary is the longest; secondaries rather graduated, the longest about 0·72 shorter than the longest primary.

Compared with *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, it has a much longer and less broad wing, and is much greyer in shade of coloration in the upper surface of the body; and, besides, it has a much larger first primary, and differs somewhat in the arrangement of the quills; for in *A. dumetorum* the first primary is small and narrow, about equal to or rather shorter than the primary coverts, and 1·3 less than the second; second quill 0·25 shorter than the third, and about equal to the fifth, the third and the fourth being about equal, the third, if any thing, being the longest; secondaries not graduated, but even, and only 0·5 shorter than the longest primary.

Severtzoff describes a Warbler in his recently published work on the Fauna of Turkestan (Turk. Jevotnie, p. 123) under the name of *Sylvia magnirostris*, nob., which, I have little doubt, is the present species, as his description agrees precisely with the single specimen I have before me. He states that the iris is blackish brown, the maxilla dark brown, and the mandible yellowish; legs dark brown; and he not inaptly compares it to the Garden Warbler (*Sylvia hortensis*) in general tone of colour of plumage. He met with it frequenting the bush-covered localities at Karatau and in the western portion of the Thianshan range.

The following are the measurements of the present species compared with those of specimens of *Acrocephalus dumetorum* and *A palustris* in my collection :—

	Cul- men.	Gape.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Hind toe, with claw.	Hind claw.
<i>Acrocephalus sogdianensis.</i>							
Kokand. Type.....	0·7	0·74	3·0	2·4	0·85	0·45	0·22
<i>Acrocephalus palustris.</i>							
Westphalia. ♂	0·6	0·62	2·62	2·2	0·85	0·48	0·18
Antwerp	0·62	0·68	2·72	2·32	0·9	0·5	0·22
Halle, Saxony. ♀	0·6	0·65	2·65	2·2	0·87	0·5	0·22
Piedmont. ♀	0·6	0·65	2·65	2·18	0·9	0·5	0·22
<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum.</i>							
Ekaterinburg	0·62	0·7	2·41	2·15	0·85	0·46	0·22
"	0·62	0·7	2·41	2·1	0·9	0·46	0·22
"	0·63	0·68	2·35	2·15	0·9	0·5	0·25
S. Ural. ♂	0·68	0·7	2·38	2·2	0·9	0·49	0·25
Etawah, India	0·65	0·7	2·4	2·25	0·88	0·5	0·25
Ahmenuggur, India. ♀.	0·65	0·7	2·4	2·25	0·9	0·48	0·22

XLIII.—*Ornithological Notes made at Chefoo (Province of Shantung, North China).* By R. SWINHOE, H.M. Consul.

(Plate XIV.)

I ARRIVED at Chefoo on the 25th April, too late for the game-market, but in time to catch the inflow of the later migrant land-birds. Few English readers will probably know where Chefoo is ; so it will be as well to say something of its position on the globe before proceeding to give my ornithological experiences there. The northward coast-line of China ends at the Shantung promontory ; and the land now bearing westwards discovers at a distance of about sixty-eight miles the little harbour called Yentai by the Chinese, which was opened to foreign trade by the Treaty of Tientsin of 1860, as more accessible to shipping than the port of Tengechow city (named in the treaty), which is situate about forty miles further west on the coast, and within the Prefecture of which this locality is included. The French Expedition rendezvoused here in 1860, while the British gathered their forces in Tazienwan (of